

NOTICE.
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HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1909.

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to the
House of
Commons.

SCOTCH WHISKY.

SOLE AGENTS IN
HONG KONG, CHINA & MANILLA.
A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
Hongkong, May 1, 1907. 783

THE CHARTERED BANK.

The following telegram, which reached the Agent of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China at Hongkong this morning has been kindly sent to us for publication:-

At the approaching meeting of the shareholders, the Directors will recommend a dividend for the past half year at 15% per annum, free of Income Tax, that £25,000 be written off Bank Premises Account, that £50,000 be placed to Reserve, (which will then stand at £1,875,000) that £134,000 be carried forward as undivided profit and that a Bonus of 10% be paid to the staff of the Bank.

IMPORTANT BANKRUPTCY POINT.

Question of Public Examination of Debtors.

Before the Chief Justice, Sir Francis Pigott, at the Bankruptcy Court, this morning, Mr. O. Dixon applied on behalf of D. R. Captain for an adjudication.

Mr. Dixon said that a meeting of the creditors had been held and it was unanimously resolved that the debtor be adjudged bankrupt and that Mr. G. H. Wakeman be appointed liquidator.

Mr. Grist:—I appear for several of the debtors. There has been no public examination in this case. This is rather premature.

His Lordship:—I don't know.

Mr. Grist:—It is the practice of the Court.

His Lordship:—Your creditors were at the meeting.

Mr. Grist:—Yes.

His Lordship:—Then they agreed.

Mr. Dixon:—Mr. Grist was there but did not prove the debts. He had no locus standi.

Mr. Grist:—I represent the largest creditors, Messrs. Humphreys and Co.

His Lordship:—The point has not been raised during the last four years.

Mr. Grist:—The practice of Sir William Goodman was that the public examination should be held before adjudication.

Mr. Wakeman:—Sir William Goodman laid it down that there should be no adjudication until after the public examination.

Mr. Grist:—The creditors have not had a chance of examining this man.

His Lordship:—Why did they pass the resolution?

Mr. Grist:—They didn't, my lord.

His Lordship:—Is there any question of a statutory majority? I think so, the whole public examination is necessary.

Mr. Wakeman:—I think it is particularly convenient to get an adjudication.

Mr. Dixon:—The object in making this application is that there may be made to the Official Receiver for purchase of this business as a going concern and until the adjudication the Official Receiver has not power to entertain offers. The business is being carried on by debtor.

His Lordship:—A public examination effects the matter of his discharge and I think on the whole Mr. Grist is right as the vote of the creditors will depend on the public examination. The examination therefore shall be held first.

Mr. Dixon:—I apply then for the debtor to be paid a salary in the meantime for carrying on the business.

Mr. Wakeman:—I have not considered the point.

His Lordship:—That matter can be referred to chambers.

BURGLARY AT WANCHAI.

During the early hours of this morning a burglary was committed at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. Ramsay, at 20, Kennedy Road, Wanchai. The thieves secured entrance to the house by cutting out a pane of glass in one of the windows of a first floor room, thereby being able to loosen the bolts and get in. Chief attention seems to have been turned to a massive marble timepiece valued at \$150 in the dining room, for this was the only article removed from this part of the house, notwithstanding the fact that there was plenty of silverware on the side-board also at hand. Before they left, however, the burglars removed from the hall three umbrellas, two overcoats and a hat. They appear to have made their escape by way of the verandah in the front of the house, and in their hurry to get away one of their tools was left behind. The police are investigating the case.

Business Notices.

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EVERY LADY SHOULD HAVE ONE.

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Hongkong, December 12, 1908. 1364

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Rings, Brooches, Ear-rings, Pins, Pendants, Hair-combs, Charms, Chains, Links, &c.

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Shannon & Co.
General Agents

HONG KONG CANTON
G. & MACAO

Hongkong, January 27, 1908

WANTED.

HARBOUR ENGINEER wanted; must be good man. Apply with copies of references, stating age, qualifications and salary required, to
'K. Y. Z.,'
Care of 'China Mail' Office.
Hongkong, March 2, 1909. 304

NOTICE.

WE have this day authorized Mr. E. H. THIEL to sign our Firm per procurator.
F. BLACKHEAD & CO.
Hongkong, March 1, 1909. 332

NOTICE.

AN Advertiser is willing to lease efficient FURNITURE for a five-roomed House on reasonable terms.
Apply
A. B. C.,
Care of 'China Mail' Office.
Hongkong, February 8, 1909. 178

NIGHT STEAMER TO CANTON.

New Twin Screw Steamer.

S.S. SAN CHEUNG

Fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans supplied in all cabins.
(Captain J. McGarry).

LEAVES Hongkong for Canton at 4.0 p.m. on SUNDAY, TUESDAY & THURSDAY.

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Fare, 1st-Class.....\$3 single passage.
Meals.....\$1 each.
Servants' passages must be paid for.

CHEUNG ON STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

No. 255, Des Vaux Road Central, Hongkong, November 12, 1908. 1448

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD.

IT is hereby notified that on and after this date the Selling Price of Ice will be REDUCED TO HALF A CENT per pound.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers,
Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, March 11, 1908. 361

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE TWENTY-THIRD YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the members of the HONGKONG CLUB will be held in the Club House, on TUESDAY, the 16th March, 1909, at 6.15 p.m.

By Order,
JAMES CRAIK,
Secretary.

Hongkong, March 3, 1909. 315

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE FIFTEENTH HALF-YEARLY DRAWING OF SIXTY-FIVE DEBENTURES (1896) of the Hongkong Club, payable on WEDNESDAY, the 31st March, 1909, will be held at the Hongkong Club House at 11 o'clock a.m. on FRIDAY, the 19th March, 1909.

Debtors of Debentures are invited to attend the Drawing.
By Order,
JAMES CRAIK,
Secretary.

Hongkong, March 3, 1909. 339

KOWLOON HOTEL.

THE ONLY FIRST-CLASS ESTABLISHMENT ACROSS THE WATER.
SINGLE AND DOUBLE ROOMS TO LET AT MONTHLY RATES. EXCELLENT CUISINE.
PRIVATE DINING ROOM FOR PARTIES.

O. E. OWEN, Proprietor.

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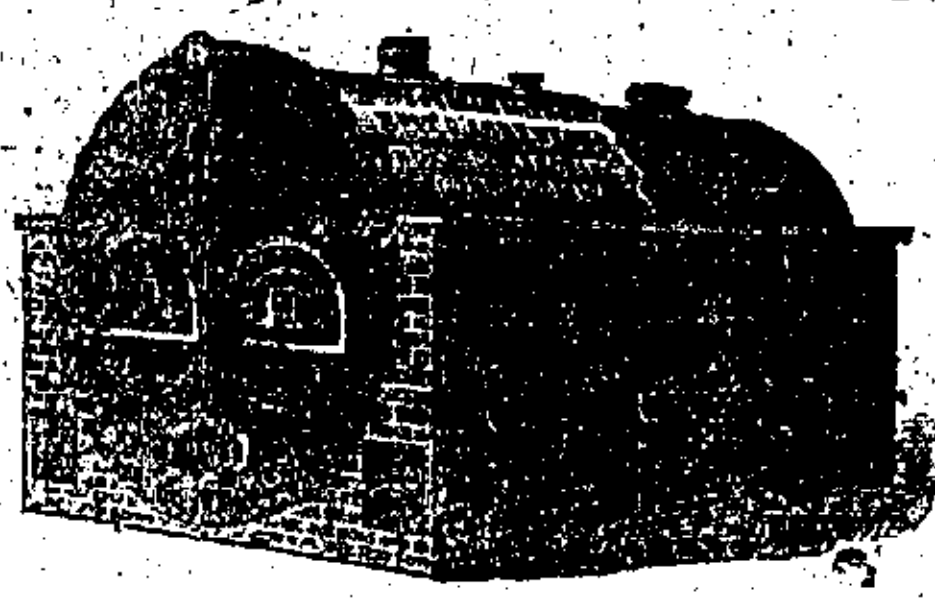
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NEW STOCK OF

'GILLETTE'
SAFETY
RAZORS.

When travelling, the jar of the train or the motion of the boat offers no element of danger to one shaving with the Gillette Safety Razor.

No. 1, Standard Gillette set. Triple Silver Plated Handle, 12 Blades, Morocco Grain Case, Viol' t' Finish Lined, \$12.50.

EXTRA BLADES.....PER PACKET, \$1.75

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UNRIVALED FOR COMFORT AND CUISINE.
THOROUGHLY UP TO DATE WITH EVERY MODERN LUXURY.
MODERATE TERMS AND NO EXTRAS.
BAND AT Tiffin & DINNER. **A. F. DAVIES, Manager.**
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PEAK HOTEL.

ADIRABLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP.
Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.
OPEN to the South Windain Summer and protected from the North-east Winds in Winter. Commanding magnificent view of Hongkong, the Harbour and adjacent islands for forty miles.
A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL AND TOURISTS' HOTEL.
Terms:—From \$5 per day Max. Telephone Add: 'Peakful'.
Town Office: 4, Des Vaux Road.
Hongkong, February 8, 1908. 21

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(LATE CONNAUGHT HOTEL).

QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

CENTRALLY situated, up-to-date Hotel. Recently renovated and under entirely New Management. Large and Comfortable Rooms, Excellent Cuisine, under the supervision of an experienced French Chef.

PARTICULARS AND RATES on application to **MANAGER.**
L. GAMEAU, Proprietor.
Szekong, October 3, 1908. 1361

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(Off Flower Street, opposite the Post Office).

(UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT).

A First-Class Comfortable, Private Family Boarding Residence and Tourist Hotel. Lofly and Airy Rooms. Good Cuisine. Centrally situated, easy access of business parts of the town.
Home Comforts. **TRAVIS SERRIN,**
House Manager.
Apply to **MANAGERESS, Mrs. E. ROGERS,**
or **Mrs. WHITE, 'HOTEL BALTIMORE,'**
or **Mrs. WHITE, 'ZETLAND HOUSE, Proprietress.**
Hongkong, August 25, 1908. 11

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No. 2, Queen's Road Central.

Telephone No. 187.

Mrs. M. MATTHEW, Proprietress.

A THOROUGHLY FIRST-CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE HOTEL.
Cuisine under European Supervision. Gills at short notice. Private Bar and Billiard Rooms. Monthly Rates for Tiffin and Dinner.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: 'CONVOY' HONGKONG.
M. MATTHEW, Proprietress.
1640

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In Casks of 375 lbs. net, **\$5.50** per Cask, ex Factory

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DRESSMAKERS, MILLINERS AND GENERAL DRAPERS.

Have a good assortment of Tweeds, Homespuns, Cloths and Fancies. Ready-to-wear Hats and Veils, &c.

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SUITABLE FOR THE PRESENT SEASON.

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A number of second-hand Typewriters, various makes, in good condition, for sale.

Apply, **ROMBACH & Co.,**
17a, Queen's Road Central,
Sole Agents for the 'OLIVER.'

Hongkong, December 12, 1907. 136

PURE DRINKING WATER.

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KELLY & WALSH, LTD.

Sepia, by W. J. Locke	1.75	Widen's Cricketer's Annual	1.50
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The Thunderbolt, by A. W. Pinard	1.50	Travel and Exploration Parts I and II each	1.50
Bridge Developments, by Robertson and Hyde Wollaston	4.00	JACK'S REFERENCE HAND-BOOK, Medical, Legal, Educational, Commercial, 1028 pages of useful information	1.50
The Planning of Fever Hospitals and Disinfecting and Cleansing Stations, by A. O. Freeman	0.50		
The Political Future of India, by H. P. Mody	2.75		
Sexual Ethics, by A. Forel	1.50		

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SCOTCH WHISKY

(HOME BOTTLED).

\$15.00 per Dozen.

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ARE NOW SHOWING

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DESIGNS IN

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CURTAINS

FOR THE

SPRING SEASON.

THEATRE ROYAL.

MONDAY,

MARCH 15TH, AT 9 P.M.,

GRAND
MILITARY BAND
CONCERT.UNDER the distinguished patronage
and presence of His Excellency, Sir
FREDERICK LUGARD.To be given by the Band of 2nd Batt.
the "Buff's" (by kind permission of Lt.-Col.
Bayard, D.S.O., and Officers).In aid of the R.K. Ladies' Benevolent
Society and Erye Refuge.
Assisted by local Ladies and Gentlemen.
Plan at the ROBINSON PIANO CO.,
Ltd., Hongkong, February 23, 1909. 271

VICTORIA = = =

CINEMATOGRAPH

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

AND

STARRING ENGAGEMENT

OF

THE WORLD FAMED

COMEDY DUET.

(ADSON THORNE)
(ADSON THORNE)
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THE SPECIAL ACT

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'ALAGAZAM'

Catch Songs—Numerous

Dialect Stories and Expert

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COMIC AND DRAMATIC

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SONGS BY

Miss Cecilia Verard.

Hongkong, March 8, 1909. 328

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No. 2, ZEILAND STREET.

TWO-NIGHT AND EVERY EVENING,

Hours: 9 to 11 P.M.

Admission \$1.20, 50 cts. and 50 cts.

MISS ROSA BARNES,

CHORUS, SOLOISTS, ENTERTAINERS.

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE

FRIDAY, 12th, MARCH, 1909, 8.30 sharp.

The programme will consist of the following:

1. A new and original play, "The Girl of the Year," by Miss Barnes.

2. A new and original play, "The Girl of the Year," by Miss Barnes.

3. A new and original play, "The Girl of the Year," by Miss Barnes.

4. A new and original play, "The Girl of the Year," by Miss Barnes.

5. A new and original play, "The Girl of the Year," by Miss Barnes.

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7. A new and original play, "The Girl of the Year," by Miss Barnes.

NEW
PIANOS

ON HIRE

AT

\$10 PER MONTH.

Tuning and Regular
Attention Inclusive.

S. MOUTRIE & Co.,

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BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS EX-
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A Fine Selection of the
CHOICEST FRENCH PER-
FUMES in Elegant Bottles,
from the following Celebrated
Houses:—Atkinson, Piver, Roger
and Gallet Rigaud, Houbigant,
etc.Specially Selected by our
London House.The following are highly re-
commended:
Ideal Perfume, Fleurs D'Amour,
Bouquet des Amours, Indian
Hay, 4711 Eau de Cologne,
Farina's Original Genuine Eau
de Cologne, Peau d'Espagne,
Trefle Incarnate, Azura, Camia
Safiano, Vera Violetta, Coeur
de Jeannette, Mes Delices, Vi-
olet Merville, Floramy, &c., &c.

Ye Olde . . .

English . . .

Lavender . . .

Water . . .

(In elegant Bottles).

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PHONE No. 536.Ready made Day and Even-
ing Gowns, Paris Models
in Hats and Toques,
Laces, Trimmings, Under-
clothing, Boots and Shoes,
Hosiery and Gloves, etc.,
etc.

MARRIAGE.

OWEN SEITH.—At St. John's Cathedral,
Hongkong, on Tuesday, 9th March, 1909,
by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A.,
PHYLLIS INNES, younger daughter of Ar-
thur Seth, Esq., I.S.O., Registrar, &c.,
of the Supreme Court of Hongkong, to
MACKENZIE OWEN, youngest son of the
late Rev. Cyril Owen, Clergyman of the
Armenian Church at Rangoon.
(English and Indian Papers please copy).

MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.

Miscellaneous
9 a.m.—Military Gun Practice.
Goods per Benlows undelivered after
this date subject to rent.Auction.
9 p.m.—Auction of Household Furni-
ture, &c., at Mr. J. V. Vernon's resi-
dence, 'Newlands,' 87, Conduit Road.

General Memoranda.

SATURDAY, March 13:
Noon—Meeting of Geo. Fenwick & Co.,
Ltd., at Hongkong Hotel.
Goods per Benlows undelivered
after this date subject to rent.MONDAY, March 15:
8 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land at the
Public Works Department's Office.
9 p.m.—Military Band Concert at City
Hall.FRIDAY, March 19:
11 a.m.—Fifteenth Half-Yearly Drawing
of Sixty-five Delegates of Hongkong
Club at Club House.
Noon—Meeting of China Sugar Refining
Co., Ltd., at Messrs Jardine, Matheson
& Co.'s Office.
12.30 p.m.—Meeting of Luzon Sugar Re-
fining Co., Ltd., at Messrs Jardine,
Matheson & Co.'s Office.

The China Mail

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1909.

THE STABLE SEA AND THE
FLUID EARTH.M. CAMILLE FLAMMARION'S announcement
that a difference of several inches
in favour of the earth has been found
in the length of the movements of
the earth corresponding to the flow
of the ocean tides hardly comes as a
surprise. Twenty years ago Professor
JOMI MUNZ, of the Tokyo University,
by his invention of the seismograph
was able to demonstrate the truth of the
paradox that the sea, a fluid, was more
stable than the supposedly solid earth.
He showed how the great plain of Mus-
sabi on which Tokyo stands was for ever
moving from day to day, now expanding
now contracting, as regularly as the
breathing of a healthy child, and how
seismic shocks were always sending
ripples of varying magnitude through
the earth's crust in one direction or
another. Mr. ANDREW WILSON recently
discussed this subject in an interesting
article in which he reminds us that
research serves entirely to reverse the
popular opinion concerning the
stability of land and the instability of
the sea. "The ocean really obeys the
same laws which regulate the behaviour
of water in a bowl. That water, we
know, maintains its level. To alter
the level, we should have to enlarge the
bowl or to contract it, or we might
raise the level by pouring additional
water in or lower it by taking so much
water out. The sea's level may be
regarded as practically unalterable.
Changes in land, therefore, which seem
to be due to the rise of the sea are to be
laid on the shoulders of the solid earth.
Take the case of the south of Sweden,
where there has been sinking of land
for centuries. If the swamping of
villages and harbours were due to the
rise of the Baltic, one would naturally
expect to find a similar result occurring
to the opposite coast. This latter land
margin is not affected at all. Some
geologists, indeed, aver that it is
rising. It is clear, on any view of
the sea's part in the matter, that we can
not have water rising on the one side of
the Baltic and subsiding or remaining
stationary on the other side. All suchalterations, therefore, belong to
the land, and are due to slow movements
of the earth's crust. The sea remains
over the sea—impassive and unalter-
ing. The rising of land is, of course,
balanced by subsidence in sinking.
This latter is much less easy to
trace in a measure, for the 'out-of-sight,'
out-of-mind principle applies here,
and land, besides, may be actually
destroyed by the sea, an action which
has to be carefully distinguished from
the sinking of any area or coast. There
are many interesting evidences of land-
rising, noted even by the casual
observer. The case of raised beaches is
one in point. We find these on the
coast-lips of Britain, ranging from the
coast-lips of the heart of gulfers,
representing a gradual rise of the
coast and giving us the sand of
the old beaches, often far inland,
so termed risings which tell us of
periodic elevations and rests. More
than this we find beds of sea-shells
high up mountains in different parts
of the world. The older philosophers
explained the presence of such marine
relics by the theory that they were left
by the flood, a view of matters which
certainly does not explain their local
character, a sense, and the absence of
universal remnants of the Deluge.
There is very apt illustration of land
rise, come in its terms, to be found in
connection with the Ponza Islands,
which lie off the coast of Italy. Here,
the large island of the group is
Palmarola. It is divided by a kind of
basin, open on the west side and
shelving up to the beach. At its
lower part are found remains of
sea-woven pebbles constructed of lime,
and other evidences of sea-life, these,
however, far above the level of
the sea. It intervenes a significant
piece of geological history. In 1786
the islands were visited by DOLLOMIEU.
He writes that Palmarola was
divided in two by a canal capable
of admitting a barge. His remarks are
daily illustrated by a map, in which the
canal is depicted. It now occupies the
place of the present basin, above the
high-water mark. It is calculated that
here a rise of 3 feet would be required
to bring about the change. We have
at Cagliari, on the south of Sardinia,
deposits of marine shells and also of
ancient pottery resting at a height of
between 200 and 300 feet above sea-level.
This rise must therefore have taken place
within the human period. Now all
these movements including those of
subsidence as well as undoubtedly due
to the fact that we live on a globe the
interior of which remains in a state of
fervent heat. A dead-down orb, like
the moon, suffers from such exigencies.
We relate these slow movements in
turn to other, but pickier, upturnings
of the earth's crust. Earthquakes illus-
trate land movement, which differ not
in kind, but only in degree, from those
we have been discussing. Some earth-
quakes suddenly cleave land, others
cause it to subside. 1822 the whole
coast-line of Chile was suddenly elevated
by an earthquake shot to an extent of
at least four feet. Beds of shells were
left to rot and decompose, being perma-
nently raised from the sea. Sir
CHARLES LYELL computed that a mass of
land was thus added while equal in
bulk to 100,000 Great Pyramids, taking
the mass of the Pyramids 6,000,000
tons. If, therefore, land rises, and the
sea destroys it, we find a compensating
action in the gain our earth exhibits
from the rise of the crust.The east coast of Japan has been
steadily rising within historical times;
the rate of movement being about one
inch per century, while the west coast
of the Empire is as steadily sinking.
Parts of the China coast are also
showing a similar inclination, though
the greatest factor of course in the
change of coastline in this Empire is
the enormous quantities of silt brought
down by the great rivers. Centuries
ago Shanghai was on the coast. The
gradually less sight of the sea and the
long before man appeared
on earth the outline of the Korean
coast must have been greatly changed
by the result of earthquakes and volcanicaction, when what is now the spacious
harbour of Hongkong was the trough of
a fiery crater. Then after a time the
land hereabouts began to crumble and
sink until the sea at last found
entrance and brought about conditions
such as we are accustomed to gaze upon
to-day. Very occasionally seismic
tremors still pass through Hongkong,
showing that the particular portion
of the envelope of earth on which we
rest is yet sensitive to change, but
whether we are tilting one way or the
other as Japan we have no means yet
of knowing. When Hongkong gets her
University this will be a field of
research that can be profitably entered
upon by her budding scientists and
mathematicians.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Ice can now be bought from the Hong-
kong Ice Co. at half a cent per pound.The German Mail of the 10th February
was delivered in London on the 10th inst.Invitations are out for a dance at Go-
vernment House on the 16th inst in
honour of the officers of the American
fleet.The Oriental Brewery Limited is now
selling ice at half a cent per pound. This
company's plant manufactures ice from
distilled water.Owing to the inclemency of the
weather the band of the 13th Rajputs will
be unable to play at the King Edward
Hotel this evening.

THE EXTRADITION CASE.

The man C. J. Merohunt, who has been
arrested on a charge of embezzling \$550
within the jurisdiction of the United States,
will be taken back to Manila on Saturday,
where he will be tried.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, Ltd.

At the half-yearly meeting of share-
holders of the Yokohama Specie Bank,
held at the Head Office, Yokohama, on
the 10th inst., it was resolved to pay a
dividend of 12 per cent p.a. for the half-
year ending the 31st Dec 1908, to add to
the Reserve Fund Yen 400,000, and to
carry forward the sum of Yen 1,140,000
to the next account."ROTTEN BUSINESS"
METHODS.In the public examination of Chan Ah
Kam, furniture dealer, at the Bankruptcy
Court, this morning, the Chief Justice, Sir
Francis Pigott, expressed astonishment
that out of \$40,000 liabilities and \$20,000
assets there should be between \$3,000 and
\$4,000 bad debts.Mr. G. H. Wakeman (Official Receiver)
attributed it to the fact of people going
away without paying for the goods, and he
said that the relatives were the heaviest
losers as debtor had borrowed large sums
of money from them.Mr. Almeida e Castro, for the debtor,
mentioned that lately there had been a
good deal of competition in the furniture
business.His Lordship thought that the goods must
have been sold at a loss and characterised
such methods as "rotten business."
The examination was closed.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

At the Legislative Council meeting this
afternoon His Excellency the Governor
made an important statement on the opium
question.His Excellency the Governor speaking
on the question said that he rose to
make a statement on the paper which had
been laid on the table. Dealing with the
telegram from the Secretary of State which
he had received, His Excellency said that an
investigation had been immediately taken
by the Hongkong Government into the
matter and the work had been undertaken
by Mr. Clementi, whom, His Excellency
thought, was the most capable person in
the Colony to do the work. The opium
farmer, too, had given the Government
every assistance by allowing all his private
books to be inspected and these re-
vealed the fact that the charges against
the opium farmer of smuggling opium
into China had no foundation in fact.A further investigation into the statistics
of the opium farmers by Mr. Hulcherson
was also conducted. Dealing with the
question of the immediate closing of
the opium, His Excellency said that he
immediately wrote to the Secre-
tary of State urging some delay and
as a compromise said that half of the di-
vans should be closed in March 1909 and
the remainder half in 1910 when the contract
with the opium farmer expired. He had
also pointed out that such a procedure
would involve a heavy cost on the revenue
of the Colony in compensation, morally it
not legally.He could not also cancel the licences
except by a breach of the conditions of the
contract and by special legislation. As a
matter of fact he had not intended to do
that course but he had been limited to doing
that course by having to close the opium
divans. In conclusion, His Excellency re-
ferred to a despatch from the Secretary of
State, and the Home Government were pre-
pared to ask Parliament to grant a sub-
sidy of £1,000,000 to the opium farmer for
the loss in revenue after such loss had been
ascertained when the di-
vans were closed in
1910. (Applause.)—and he could not
regulate the Council on these matters
without the sanction of the British Gov-
ernment. After all the information had been
laid before the Home Government without
this consideration to the Hongkong Gov-
ernment had been fulfilled. (Applause.)

ATTACK ON A TRAIN.

GERMAN FOREIGN LEGION-
ARIES HEAVILY SENTENCED.(Exclusive Service supplied by Reuter,
via Bombay.)

London, March 10.

Four of the ringleaders of the German
legionaries who on December 16 held up
the train containing General Viguy, who
was proceeding to Southern Algeria,
have been given sentences of from 10 to
20 years' penal servitude, and of the
rest two have been committed for five
years.[Note.—It will be remembered that the
message conveying news of the attack on
the train stated that there were 50 foreign
legionaries and a number of German
recruits concerned. No violence was done,
and 49 of the men were captured.—Ed.,
C. M.]

CONGO ATROCITIES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail:
Copyright protected under
Ordinance 3 of 1894.)

London, March 11.

A Belgian lieutenant named Arnold
has been sentenced to twelve years'
penal servitude for atrocities committed
in the Congo.

THE BALKANS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail:
Copyright protected under
Ordinance 3 of 1894.)

London, March 11.

Questioned in the House of Commons
concerning the Balkans, Sir Edward
Grey, the Foreign Secretary of State,
said that communications were con-
stantly passing between the Powers with
the object of promoting a friendly
settlement, but the negotiations were
insufficiently advanced for him to state
when the Conference would be likely to
meet.PRINCE KUMI'S MOVE-
MENTS.(Reuter's Service to the China Mail:
Copyright protected under
Ordinance 3 of 1894.)

London, March 11.

Prince Kumi, having visited the
military establishments in Bulgaria, has
arrived at Constantinople.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail:
Copyright protected under
Ordinance 3 of 1894.)

London, March 11.

Replying to the Mikado's con-
gratulations, President Taft says he
will earnestly endeavour to maintain
in every way the satisfactory bond
existing between Japan and America.WAR OFFICE AND
AEROPLANES.(Reuter's Service to the China Mail:
Copyright protected under
Ordinance 3 of 1894.)

London, March 11.

The Daily Mail states that the War
Office has already decided to offer to
purchase one of Mr Wright's aero-
planes.KING TO SEE AIRSHIP
FLIGHT.(Reuter's Service to the China Mail:
Copyright protected under
Ordinance 3 of 1894.)

London, March 11.

The King is expected to visit Pen on
Friday to see Mr. Wilbur Wright
attempt his airship flight.ONE TRAIL CONVINCES.—People who
don't know how pleasant Stearns'
Wine of Cod Liver Oil is to take are easily
convinced by taking a dose. And one bot-
tle shows what a good tonic it is, too.HAMBURG-AMERIKA
LINE.

NO DIVIDEND.

(Exclusive Service, supplied by Reuter,
via Bombay.)

London, March 10.

The Hamburg-Amerika Shipping Co.
pay no dividend for the past year.The directors attribute this partly to
the disastrous effects of the record-
breaking voyages of the Lusitania and
the Mauretania.

INCOME TAX IN FRANCE.

(Exclusive Service, supplied by Reuter,
via Bombay.)

London, March 10.

The French Chamber has adopted a
Bill introducing an Income Tax.

TORNADO IN AMERICA.

TOWN PRACTICALLY
DESTROYED.(Exclusive Service, supplied by Reuter,
via Bombay.)

London, March 11.

A tornado has occurred at Arkansas,
U.S.A.Thirty persons were killed and 60
injured.The town of Brinkley is practically
destroyed.TO WELD THE CHINESE
TOGETHER.

(Wah Tsu Yat Po's Service.)

PEKING, March 10.

Wang Tai Ching, who is to proceed
to the Straits, Australia, etc., in order
to bring the Chinese residents in these
parts into closer relations with the home
Government, is to embark on the 11th
inst. The cruisers Hai Ki and Hai
Yung will be placed at his disposal.CHU SHIH-CHANG STILL
RELUCTANT.

(Wah Tsu Yat Po's Service.)

PEKING, March 10.

Chu Shih-chang has again declined
to accept the position of President of
the Board of Communications, but the
Prince Regent has directed Chang Chi
Ting and Na Tung to request him to
take the office and not to be suspicious.

NO FOREIGN LOAN.

(Wah Tsu Yat Po's Service.)

PEKING, March 10.

The Prince Regent in directing
Prince Su to raise funds for the
reorganisation of the Navy, said that by
no means should a foreign loan be
negotiated for the purpose.TRAINING OF CHINESE
TROOPS.

(Wah Tsu Yat Po's Service.)

PEKING, March 10.

The Board of War urges upon all the
Provincial authorities to train their
troops within the prescribed period.NA TUNG'S BEREAVE-
MENT.

(Wah Tsu Yat Po's Service.)

PEKING, March 10.

Na Tung's mother has died. His
own illness is passing away.STEARNS' HEADACHE CURE is particu-
larly valuable to ladies. It is pecu-
liarly effective in relieving pain peculiar to
their sex.PASTEURIZED AMSTEL
PILSENER BEER.SPECIALLY PASTEURIZED FOR USE IN TROPICAL
COUNTRIES.VERY LIGHT, EXCEEDINGLY PALATABLE,
REFRESHING AND WHOLESOME.

You will reject other beers when once you try this.

Per Case 4 Dozen Quarts... .. \$16.50
" 6 " Pints... .. 16.50
" Dozen Quarts... .. 4.16
" " Pints... .. 2.75

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BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting of Hongkong Auxiliary.

In the unavoidable absence of the Hon. Mr. F. H. May, Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Mr. H. W. Slade presided at the annual meeting of the Hongkong auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society held in the City Hall yesterday afternoon. Supporting him on the platform were the Bishop of Victoria (Dr. Landor), the Rev. E. G. Barnett, the Rev. T. W. Pearce, Messrs. Amos P. Wilder (American Consul-General), and W. G. Humphreys.

After the singing of a hymn, prayer was offered by the Rev. E. J. Barnett.

The Chairman referred to the unavoidable absence of the Hon. Mr. F. H. May, and added that for himself he must plead ignorance of the working of the British and Foreign Bible Society. Therefore he would ask them to excuse any remarks from him, and request the Rev. T. W. Pearce to present the report.

The Rev. T. W. Pearce then read the report, which has already appeared in the *China Mail*, and added that if there was one platform on which Christians of every name could stand it was the platform of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

And when they noticed the movements towards co-operation among Christians, then they could be grateful to Almighty God that in the work of the Society they were being brought nearer together.

The Bishop of Victoria moved that the General Committee for 1908 be re-elected for the current year, with power to add to their number; that the Ladies Committee be thanked for their special services rendered during the past 12 months and be requested to continue for a further year, with power to add to their number; that Dr. Sandars, the Honorary Treasurer, and the Rev. T. W. Pearce, the Honorary Secretary, be asked to resign in office for a further period of one year, in doing so he said he regarded that association as one of the most encouraging institutions they had in the Colony.

The report Mr. Pearce had presented gave them great ground for encouragement, and they were indeed grateful to the ladies for their earnestness and success in collecting £750 this last year. They were also thankful that Bible Sunday was so universally observed in the Christian churches on the part of both the Chinese and European communities. The British and Foreign Bible Society was a society which circulated the best book in the world; they would all agree that the Bible was its own best defense. It had been said that the question of the inspiration of the Bible was answered in this way—Does it inspire? The Bible was a book which did inspire those who read it and studied it, and in the inspiring power of the Bible, it proved itself to be the inspired Word of God. If they could imagine a world from which the Bible had been entirely lost, he thought they would see how very much the world would lose. If there were to be taken away all the noblest quotations from the Bible, and all the institutions which had their origin in the Bible, they would be amazed how very much poorer they would be; indeed, he thought the cry throughout the world would be "Give us back our Bible!"

Literature, law, and the arts were very much dependent upon the Bible than most people supposed. His Lordship spoke of the comfort given by the Bible in times of trial and distress, and went on to refer to the fact that the Society was founded on a broad basis, saying that among its officers would be found the leading men of all Protestant Christian Churches. Under its aegis men of different nationalities and races could co-operate to the advancement of Christianity, and in this connection he referred to the movement for a reunion among the Christian churches which was so strongly advocated last year at the Pan-Asian Congress. In working for such a society as the British and Foreign Bible Society they were helping to forward the time when Christian people throughout the world should be one as our Lord and Master prayed they might be.

Mr. Amos P. Wilder, who seconded, said:—Missions are the subject of comment as regards personnel, method, efficiency; but there is an undisputed dignity and majesty in the unassuming circulation of the Bible. To question the potency of this book and the benefits of its study is to argue with the stars. It is the motive power of our civilization; most all we have owe to it. As people absorb its teachings in their clarity and fervor, they become strong as individuals and as nations; as they forget or obscure its precepts, they decline. Japan seems to be an exception, but this potential people is too young yet as moderns to have run any gauntlet of the tests of national life. It will be remembered that the nation was not able to break the bonds that enveloped that nation. Its sagacious confession to Christian impact and hope is strong that the Faith will come to its own more fully.

We enjoy so much as the legacy of our fathers devotion to this Book that in their arrogance some are wont to say that Buddha or Confucius offer an equally effective programme. The one error, indeed, is to point to India and China. One finds virtues there and whatever is good in man wherever found is divine; but how does the work of the Bible in uplifting, not individuals, but the mass of men, compare with the fruit of the maxims of Confucius, so excellent in precept and so futile to make a nation intelligent, clean, progressive? If the greatest teacher of the Chinese should return—should speak with his old time directness to corrupt Mandarins, how long would it be before he too were crucified? And "the little green god of India"—what man, save in a cynical mood would claim for his ungodly way for thousands of years, the good things that Christianity has brought to the world? Chang Ching-tung said a decade ago: "The Western religion is daily flourishing; the West's last cuts are daily declining and cannot last long. For Buddhism, on the last legs and Taoism is discouraged because its demons are spiritless." Men are often discouraged by the short-comings of our civilization and nearly conclude that it is a delusion. They are in a hurry for a paradise and seek to know the purpose of the Almighty. Some are confident that they could make a better world. One looks about him; in the centres of the finest civilization and in social degradations, the slanders of fashion, in rotten decadence and decides that the life of the world is better. Men say—and it may be true—that all civilization must flower only to decay; but since the sunsets of the social order and the breath of empire there is a remnant of virtue and strength, and this man of faith believe to be the pledge of a rehabilitated world.

Christianity's dominance is attested by its vital principle. The pagan faiths have had great away, and onlookers have been dazzled by their splendours, but once down, they never rise again. At different epochs Christianity has been obscured and made unlovely and defiled by the bigot, the mercenary and the sensual, until just men have scarcely been able to follow the gleam; but now and anon through the centuries some brave, clear visioned man has laid hold on the original teaching, dragged the divine thing from the human debris and cried "Here is the way"; the undying nature of the message has reasserted itself, and once more the march has gone forward.

Culture is a good thing for the individual but culture has its perils; so we are not to reject civilization because it carries its peculiar evils. I know a man who reasons that because bar rooms are most plentiful at the centres of education, material prosperity, refinement and church life, that therefore they must be a good thing. He might as well say that insanity and suicide are good things because they are more frequent among overworked minds of fine texture than among the stagnant intellects of South Sea Islanders. There is much sippant talk about the civilization that generations of God-fearing ancestors have worked out for us. We are ungratefully thoughtless as to what we have. What of the myriads of homes in your country and mine, the scenes of plenty, growth and peace, of mutual respect, of defence to women; what of intelligence, self-control, mercy, truth, in the average man, woman and child? If you lose your watch in the streets of your home town, why is the chance of recovery so good? If you fall down sick, why do many strangers care for you? Why do travellers feel safe in an English ship? They know if their child falls overboard, some Captain Smailly will rescue the woman and child off safety, and stand by to go down with her. These things are not by chance, my friends; they were paid for with a price. Nations do not become strong and peaceful by the turning of a hand; no such scenes as I have instanced are common in paganism, and why? The motive power in man is the heart; out of it are the issues of life, and heathen faiths have not so influenced those who know their power. The strength of Christian civilization is due to the sanctions of the Bible in which generations have been trained. The musings of Job have forced men to look to the stars in reverence. The warnings of Isaiah have made them afraid. The grim just God, fearing figures of prophets and martyrs, stalk in the souls of men who do not know it, and the God-man of Galilee still summons the sons of men to be pure, merciful and true to the end.

This society devotes its energies to the distribution of the Bible to all nations. It is now printed in full or in part in over 400 languages. This word is predicated on the proposition that the man who shapes his life by the teachings of the Book will come to the full stature of manhood, and that the people who make it their guide will stave off evils and take on beneficence. We are especially interested in the distribution of the book among the Chinese; they are our neighbours, and knowing and esteeming their qualities, we are almost a unit in saying no undeveloped people has the potentiality of these four hundred millions. We believe the Book will do for them what it has done for the nations who have adopted it as the corner stone of their religious faith.

And what else will uplift China? Commerce, exploitation of resources, diplomacy, the cry of the century, modern education and the hand of the West, they are handmaids of truth but they do not do the work. The Anglo-Saxon has rubbed against the Chinese for a century in South China, yet the crudest forms of superstition abound in almost every native house; tawdry dragons are carried about the streets to expel the plague; polygamy and slavery are common, and one may only infer from the dark scenes that must be enacted that a system of hellishness on earth is being maintained. The Chinese are not to be despised, but they are not to be deceived. We deny it absolutely. We confess the theory, but we point out the constant protest, the clamour attached to it, the periodic war on it, the promise from the operation of Christian resistance and uplift elsewhere of better days to come in the Far East. There is no doubt that the Chinese are improving, but you find vice and degradation there is no peace, there is recurring pestilence is far over carrying forward the standard and bidding the line to come up; if one generation does not relieve the inquiry better men and women to follow us for the improvement.

No, this Society and kindred projects bring the only hope poor old dead China can ever know. Globe trotters comfortably ensconced by the hotel fire may conceive that because coolies patiently bear their chains with a smile, and workers with burdens in their baskets and babies on their backs keep each other company up the precipice and divert their journey with good cheer, therefore all is well; but they do not know China. I have been in the interior and seen the poverty, the unprogressiveness, the disease, violence and death. As through village and valley town I have walked through the dreary monotony of various huts, with smoke, beggars and thieves, the pathetic trifling of soothsayers and women kneeling to painted wood, and children pleading with fiendish gods of stone; as I have lain at night and heard the unmeaning pounding of drums and uncouth cries of superstition and of suffering, I have said "What in God's name is the solvent of this awful darkness, death, and decay?" and I found but one. That was in the little knots of Chinese men, women and children gathered in neat, respectable rooms and learning of the Christian in families happy in their new light and ambitious for their children; in schools taught by men and women with love in their hearts; in hospitals where suffering was alleviated by men whose skill was mastered in Christian countries. Here for the first time the order, cleanliness, the quiet, the mercy and consideration that you and I know as the common lot; and I realized the never before the meaning of the words "The truth shall set you free."

These resolutions were carried unanimously. Mr. Humphreys proposed and the Rev. T. W. Pearce seconded a vote of thanks to the speakers and the Chairman. This was acknowledged and the meeting concluded with the Doxology.

DANGERS OF INFLUENZA.

THE great danger of influenza is of its resulting in pneumonia. This can be avoided by using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It not only cures influenza but counteracts any tendency of the disease towards pneumonia. For sale by all Chemists and druggists.

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VICTORIA BRITISH SCHOOL.

Prize Distribution.

To-day was prize day at the Victoria British School, the proceedings being presided over by Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, Inspector of Schools. There was a considerable attendance of parents and friends.

Mr. Wolfe, prior to presenting the awards, addressed the gathering. He commented on the satisfactory character of the report, and went on to say they would notice from figures read that the salaries and other charges totalled \$7,765.19, whereas the fees produced \$1,311, practically one-seventh of the expenditure. The report, and went on to say they would notice from figures read that the salaries and other charges totalled \$7,765.19, whereas the fees produced \$1,311, practically one-seventh of the expenditure. The report, and went on to say they would notice from figures read that the salaries and other charges totalled \$7,765.19, whereas the fees produced \$1,311, practically one-seventh of the expenditure.

The school opened 208 times, an increase of 20 over 1907. The highest number of scholars registered at one time was 59, the highest average attendance was 51 in February and the lowest 31 in September. The average attendance for the whole year was 49.5 scholars. 197.70 pupils were registered during the year, making a total of 121 scholars enrolled since the school opened 4 years ago, and in this period we have had an almost complete change in the number of scholars. The opening day being on our books still. The varying attendance at this as well as at the British School in Kowloon is, I venture to say, unique. Of the 70 pupils enrolled 50 were on the books the whole year, 12 for 9 months, 9 for 6 months, 24 for 3 months and under. If conclusions from these statistics are reliable the average pupil attends school for little more than half the year. I must point out that these startling figures reflect on the school and do not reflect upon the regularity of those who do attend. In the summer months, May to September, the regularity fell off 25 per cent; in the cooler months November to April the regularity rose to 58 per cent. In the Upper School particularly the regularity was distinctly creditable and absences for flimsy reasons are now happily negligible.

For school in the colony, 3 of these left the Colony last term, 3 obtained employment with local firms, and 2 became apprentice engineers.

These returns show how difficult it is to obtain continuity in the programme of studies and the difficulty which the Inspector of Schools has to face at the end of the year when he can examine only 35 per cent of the work done. The half-yearly examination which we have prescribed for July each year should serve to give a better indication of the year's work. A moving European population furnishes the main reason for this unsatisfactory attendance. Like birds of passage parents come and go with the change of seasons, they move from East Point to West Point or to Kowloon, and arrange for a transfer of their children to the nearest school. We had a case where a boy was admitted, left, and readmitted 3 times in the one year.

Excesses—Salaries and other charges (incidental, books, furniture) absorbed \$7,765.19; fees produced \$1,311, (\$128 less than 1907). The net cost of the maintenance being \$6,454.19. The average cost per scholar is \$104 as the yearly cost to the Hongkong Government of one scholar in average attendance. Two scales of fees are charged and in the future it may be found necessary to impose the higher charge not only on the Upper School but also upon the large number of scholars whose casual attendance deprives the school of sufficient revenue to meet the cost of keeping a qualified staff of assistant teachers.

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QUALIFIED ENGLISH CHEMISTS

WILL ALWAYS BE ON DUTY TO Dispense Drugs and Prepare Prescriptions.

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NO Extra Charge for Night Services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Legard presided at the meeting of the Legislative Council which was held this afternoon. There were also present:—H. E. Major General Broadwood, Hon. Mr. F. H. May, Colonial Secretary, Sir HENRY BARKLEY, K.C., Acting Attorney General, Hon. Mr. W. CRAWFORD, Director of Public Works, Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON, Colonial Treasurer, Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING, Registrar General, Hon. F. J. BARRILEY, Capt. Sept. of Police, Hon. Mr. H. E. PELLOCK, K.C., Hon. Dr. Ho KAI, Hon. Mr. WAI YUK, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. H. W. SLADE, Hon. Mr. W. J. GIBSON, Hon. Mr. L. A. HARRIS, Mr. A. M. G. FLEMING (Clerk of Council).

MERCHANT SHIPPING ORDINANCE. Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance further to amend The Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1890. Hon. Attorney General moved the second reading. Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded and the bill was read a second time. The bill then passed through the committee stage.

DECLARATION OF CROWN POSSESSIONS. Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to declare the Crown's possession of certain portions of the Crown's land and sea bed situate in Hongkong Bay in the Colony of Hongkong and to validate such declaration as has heretofore taken place. Hon. Attorney General moved the second reading. Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded and the bill was read a second time. The bill then passed through the committee stage.

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